

Carmarthenshire County Council

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Annual Report

OF THE

PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

for the Year ended 31st December, 1954

LLANELLY :

Printed by the Llanelly Mercury Printing Co., Ltd.

Carmarthenshire County Council

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Annual Report

OF THE

PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

for the Year ended 31st December, 1954

LLANELLY :

Printed by the Llanelly Mercury Printing Co., Ltd.

CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL
OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954**

It is with pleasure that I submit the report on the School Medical Service for 1954. The improvement noted last year in the general condition of school children has continued and the percentage in good general condition has risen from 53.4% in 1953 to 59.4% in 1954.

There has been a continued improvement in the Dental Service. Full advantage is taken of the clinic facilities at Carmarthen, Llanelly, Ammanford and St. Clears and the building of new clinic premises at Laugharne is awaited.

Defects noted by School Medical Officers at routine school medical examinations are referred when necessary to the appropriate consultant.

There is still a waiting list for ear, nose and throat cases for examination and treatment. The number of children awaiting operative treatment had fallen from 768 at the end of 1953 to 623 at the end of 1954. It appears that this waiting list can be cleared only by the allocation of more children's beds to the Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists at the various hospitals if only for a temporary period.

It is unfortunate that in spite of continued requests no improvement, in fact deterioration, of the position with regard to ophthalmic examinations obtains ; there were at the end of the year 481 children awaiting examination as against 448 at the end of 1953.

Communicable disease shows an increase over the previous year. Three schools were closed for sonne dysentery, one for whooping cough and three on account of influenza. Other schools had a large number of cases of influenza but closure was not necessitated in those instances.

The services of a Consultant Child Psychiatrist are now available at a Child Guidance Clinic held at Brynmair Clinic by arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board and the success of this Clinic shows the need for development of this work further west in the County.

The success achieved by a service such as the School Health Service depends a good deal on co-operation with other sections of the medical service and, to an important degree, with the Education Department from whose Director and staff we receive the closest support in this work.

The close liaison developed with general practitioners is fully maintained.

I am grateful to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and members of the Education Committee, for their help and the kind consideration they have shown me, and to the Teachers for their continued interest and valuable assistance. I would also record my appreciation of the loyal co-operation of all members of the professional, nursing, administrative and clerical staff.

R. EVANS,

Principal School Medical Officer.

STAFF

Principal School Medical Officer :

R. Evans, M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Deputy Principal School Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer :

D. G. G. Jones, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers :

E. T. Davies-Humphreys, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

D. O. Davies, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

M. G. Danaher, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H.

Marjorie J. A. Lewis, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch.

Edna E. Williams, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch.

J. G. E. Collins, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*E. H. Beynon-Hopkins, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time).

*Gladys M. Herbert, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time).

†Elfyn T. Jones, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time).

* Divisional Medical Officer of Health.

† District Medical Officer of Health.

Principal School Dental Officer :

G. Ungood Griffiths, L.D.S., R.C.S.

School Dental Officers :

J. L. T. Davies, L.D.S., R.C.S.

W. E. T. Llewelyn, L.D.S., R.C.S.

D. L. Walters, L.D.S., R.C.S. (commenced 10th May).

F. G. Day (temporary).

Gwilym Evans, L.D.S., R.C.S. (part-time).

Dental Attendants :

Mrs. V. M. Arundel.

Miss E. B. Evans.

Miss A. M. Maliphant.

Miss M. A. Thomas.

Miss J. Jenkins.

Miss Daphne M. Thomas (part-time ; commenced 14th September).

Senior Orthopaedic Sister :

Miss E. R. Buckley, M.C.S.P.

Assistant Orthopaedic Sister :

Mrs. O. Turner Evans, M.C.S.P.

Speech Therapist :

Mrs. A. St. John Bayley, L.C.S.T. (part-time ; ceased duties, 22nd April).

Miss M. Philippa Francis, L.C.S.T. (commenced 14th September).

Chief Nursing Officer :

Miss M. Evans, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor :

Miss F. Hughes, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Consultants available for School Health Service :**Orthopaedic Surgeon :**

G. D. Rowley, M.Ch. (Orthop.). Swansea.

Ophthalmic Surgeons :

J. J. Healy, M.B., Ch.B., Llanelly.

G. S. Forrester, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S., Llanelly.

A. Philipp, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.O.M.S., Llanelly

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeons :

T. I. Williams, F.R.C.S., Llanelly.

S. Morgan, F.R.C.S., Carmarthen.

Hon. Plastic Surgeon :

T. Pomfret Kilner, F.R.C.S., London.

Paediatrician :

R. T. Jenkins, M.R.C.P., D.C.H., Swansea.

Dermatologist :

D. Rhys Lewis, M.D., F.R.C.P., Swansea.

Dental Radiologist :

Iwan Davies, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.M.R.E.,
Swansea.

Orthodontist :

R. E. Rix, M.R.C.S., L.D.S., R.C.S., London.

Chest Physicians :

J. T. Jones, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B.

D. B. Ll. Morgan, M.D.

Assistant Chest Physicians :

J. Williams, M.B., B.Ch.

J. Morgan, M.B., B.S.

Psychiatrists :

Sidney Davies, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.

J. Farr, M.B., B.S., B.Ch., D.P.M.

Beryl Senneck, M.B., B.S., D.P.M., D.T.M.

Child Psychiatrist :

G. Crosse, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.

Pathologist :

Gwenfron M. Griffiths, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Bacteriologist under Medical Research Council :

W. Kwantes, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., Dip. Bact.

NURSING

District.		Nurse.	Qualifications.
Whole-time Nurses.			
Amman Valley	.....	M. G. Evans	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Ammanford	.....	A. Howells	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Burry Port	.....	R. M. Walters	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Trimsaran	.....	G. M. Williams	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Llangennech	.....	E. Edwards	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Carmarthen Borough	.....	D. Murray	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
St. Clears	.....	M. E. E. Davies	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Llanelly Borough	.....	C. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
		M. C. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M.
		G. Greene	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
		G. M. Roberts	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
		D. C. Insley	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Felinfoel	.....	E. M. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Tumble	.....	E. J. M. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Llandebie	.....	A. E. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Pencader	.....	O. M. Hobson	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Bancyfelin	.....	E. N. E. Thomas	S.R.N., H. V. Cert.
Llandilo	.....	C. M. Bailey	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Nantgaredig	.....	H. Sefton Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.,
Llangendeirne	.....	M. E. Thomas	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Llandovery	.....	M. M. Davies	S.R.N., H. V. Cert.
Conwil	.....	N. G. E. Baker	S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
Whitland	.....	Vacancy	.....
Part-time Nurses.			
Llansawel	.....	M. L. Angel	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Cilycwm	.....	E. G. Cox	S.C.M.
Caio	.....	S. Jenkins	S.C.M., S.E.A.N.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

During the year, seven schools were, on the advice of the Principal School Medical Officer, closed by the Education Committee on account of communicable disease :—

School.	Disease.	Closure.
Pentrepoeth Infants C.P.	Dysentery	30th March—13th April
Pentrepoeth Boys C.P.	do.	6th—13th April.
Pentrepoeth Girls C.P.	do.	6th—13th April.
Cwmdwr V.P.	Whooping Cough ...	10th—28th May.
Llanllwni V.P.	Influenza	18th—28th November.
Pantycaws C.P.	do.	22nd—28th November.
Esgerdawe C.P.	do.	22nd—28th November.

Dysentery.—An outbreak of sonne dysentery occurred at the Pentrepoeth County Primary Schools early in the year. The Infants School was first affected and was closed from the 30th March to the 13th April. The other two Schools were involved soon afterwards and they were closed from the 6th to the 13th April. A total of 176 children were affected and a number of the teachers and canteen workers also suffered from the complaint. The outbreak, which apparently originated in the school canteen, had subsided by the time the schools reopened after the Easter Holidays.

Acute Poliomyelitis.—Only two cases of acute poliomyelitis, both non-paralytic, were confirmed in the County during the year. One was five and the other four years of age.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND FINDINGS

All the Primary, Secondary and Grammar Schools in the County were visited during the year for medical inspection in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Education. In addition 88 Schools were visited for the re-examination of children previously referred for treatment or observation. 8,957 children were examined in the routine age groups and 5,487 special inspections and re-inspections were made. A summary of the findings of medical inspection is given in Table II at the end of this report. The following are notes on some of the defects found :—

Skin Diseases.—62 cases required treatment and 179 cases were referred for observation.

Eye Defects.—Treatment was advised for 810 children with defective vision and 106 children with squint, while 962 cases of defective vision and 119 cases of squint were referred for observation.

Ear Conditions.—24 cases of defective hearing were referred for treatment and 47 for observation. Treatment was required for 41 cases of Otitis Media (ear discharge) and a further 112 cases were referred for observation. 24 cases of other ear conditions were also referred for treatment and 35 for observation.

Nose and Throat Conditions.—There were 536 cases of nose and throat defects (including enlarged tonsils and adenoids, sinusitis, antral conditions, etc.) requiring treatment, and a further 1005 were referred for observation.

Speech.—Treatment was advised for 76 cases of defective speech and 78 cases were referred for observation.

Nutrition.—Of the 8,957 children seen at routine medical inspection, only 29 (0.32%) were of poor general condition. 3,606 (40.26%) were of fair and 5,322 (59.42%) of good general condition. The figures indicate that the general physical condition of the children in the County has shewn an overall improvement

FOLLOWING-UP

Much of the success of the School Health Service depends on the "field work" undertaken by the School Nurses. They follow up in the homes, those cases found to be defective at medical inspection, and also visit the homes of children suffering from communicable disease, uncleanness, etc. 1,461 surprise visits to Schools were made by the School Nurses during the year to make cleanliness surveys. Table III at the end of this report summarises this work. In addition, the Nurses made 3,612 home visits.

"Following-up" is also carried out by the School Medical Officers by periodic re-inspections, and many special visits were made to Schools to examine special cases. During the year 88 Schools were re-inspected by the Medical Officers and 2,580 children were re-inspected.

MEDICAL TREATMENT

Minor Ailments.—Ailments such as skin diseases, minor eye and ear diseases, injuries, cuts, etc., were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics at Llanelly, Carmarthen and Ammanford. Many cases were also treated privately by medical practitioners, and at the homes of children under the supervision of School Nurses. 891 children were known to have been treated during the year. The total attendances at the Clinics were 1,897, i.e., 1,216 at Llanelly, 429 at Carmarthen, and 252 at Ammanford.

Vision.—The specialist ophthalmic examination of children was undertaken by the Regional Hospital Board through the Hospital Management Committees. Mr. A. Philipp, Llanelly, held sessions at the Ophthalmic Centre at the West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen, and Mr. G. S. Forrester, Llanelly, held sessions at Llanelly and at the Amman Valley Hospital. Sessions at Llanelly were held at the Brynmair School Clinic, but cases were also seen at the Outpatient Department of the Hospital.

1,748 children were dealt with by the Eye Specialists during the year, viz :—

	Outpatients.	Inpatients.	Total.
West Wales Hospital	765	15	780
Llanelly Hospital	656	52	708
Amman Valley Hospital	258	—	258
Llandovery Hospital	1	1	2
Totals	1680	68	1748

Glasses were prescribed for 876 children and records held by the School Medical Officer showed that 784 had been provided with glasses at the end of the year.

481 children were on the waiting lists for specialist ophthalmic examination on the 31st December, 1954, viz :—

Carmarthen	238
Llanelly	86
Amman Valley	157
Total	481

Ear, Nose and Throat Defects.—During the year, Mr. T. I. Williams ceased to attend at the Llandovery Hospital for the treatment of ear, nose and throat defects. Subsequently, the arrangements for the examination and treatment of children at Llandovery were the same as for the West Wales and Llanelly Hospitals, i.e., the School Medical Officer directed parents to attend with their children for specialist examination, attendances being made at the Out-patient Departments. No children were treated at Llandovery during the year. Arrangements for specialist examination at the Amman

Valley Hospital were made by that Hospital. Hospitals, of course, also dealt with children referred to them directly by general medical practitioners.

Children found to require inpatient treatment were placed by the specialists on the Hospital waiting lists, and the arrangements for admission were made by the Hospitals. Children have no priority of admission and have to take their chance with adults on the waiting lists. The following Table gives information as to the number of children who received operative treatment during the year :—

	Ear Diseases.	Adenoids and chronic tonsillitis.	Other nose and throat conditions.	Total.
West Wales Hospital	8	148	73	229
Llandovery Hospital	—	—	—	—
Llanelly Hospital	46	242	59	347
Amman Valley Hospital	—	74	6	80
Totals	54	464	138	656

28 more children received operative treatment at Hospitals than during 1953. There were at the end of 1954, 623 children on the waiting list for admission ; a decrease of 145 on the figure at the 31st December, 1953. There was, however, an increase in the waiting list for specialist examination.

Comparison of the waiting lists at the end of 1953 and at the end of 1954 is as follows :—

Hospital	Waiting for Specialist Examination		Waiting for admission to Hospital		Total	
	At 31 Dec. 1953	At 31 Dec. 1954	At 31 Dec. 1953	At 31 Dec. 1954	At 31 Dec. 1953	At 31 Dec. 1954
West Wales	40	66	182	145	222	211
Llanelly	—	15	371	279	371	294
Amman Valley	2	23	158	199	160	222
Llandovery	18	49	57	—	75	49
Total	60	153	768	623	828	776

493 miscellaneous cases received non-operative treatment at Hospital Outpatient Departments.

Plastic Treatment.—The arrangements for the plastic treatment of children at The Churchill Hospital, Oxford, continued during the year.

One case was treated there ; a cartilage graft of ear.

Artificial Light Therapy.—6 School children received artificial light treatment at the Carmarthen Clinic.

Asthma.—The Asthma Clinics at Llanelly, Carmarthen and Ammanford, under the care of Dr. Jones, Deputy Principal School Medical Officer, Dr. E. T. Davies-Humphreys, and Dr. M. J. A. Lewis respectively, continue to function successfully. 1,563 attendances were made at the Clinics during the year. There were 94 new cases. Further information is given in the following table :—

	Ammanford.		Llanelly.		Carmarthen.		Total.
No. of cases on 1st January, 1953.....	62	.....	118	.....	109	.....	289
No. of new cases	20	.....	42	.....	32	.....	94
No. withdrawn	1	.....	3	.....	1	.....	5
No. of cases on 31st December	81	.....	157	.....	140	.....	378
Total attendances	560	.....	432	.....	571	.....	1563

Treatment was on the same lines as for past years, and there are no special observations to make.

Orthopaedic Treatment.—The Education Committee continued to administer the Clinics for the orthopaedic supervision and after-care of children. The charge of 25/- per case per annum for the supervision of the cases of other Authorities remained unchanged, but the Health Committee paid a fixed lump sum in respect of children under school age.

On the 31st December, 1954, 2,118 cases were being attended to for all Authorities, viz. :—

County Education Committee	1365
County Health Committee	727
West Wales Hospital Management Committee	10
Glantawe Hospital Management Committee	16

An analysis of these cases according to diagnosis is as follows :—

	County Education Committee.	Other Authorities.	Total.
Paralysis :			
Infantile	39	18	57
Spastic	49	13	62
Obstetrical	—	—	—
Other	1	1	2
Congenital Deformities	171	127	298
Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints	2	3	5
Non-Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints :			
Rickets	4	3	7
Other	27	4	31
Static and Postural Defects	1043	568	1611
Traumatic Deformities	16	6	22
Multiple Defects	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	13	10	23
Totals	1365	753	2118

Mr. Gordon Rowley, Swansea, the Orthopaedic Surgeon, treated thirteen of the Authority's cases as inpatients : one at Morriston Hospital and twelve at Gorseinon Hospital. One case was treated at the St. Lawrence Hospital, Chepstow. Cases for special or X-ray examination were referred to Mr. Rowley at the Out-patient Department of Morriston and Swansea Hospitals.

On the 31st December, twenty-two children referred from the Orthopaedic Clinics were on the waiting list for hospital inpatient treatment, as compared with nineteen on the 31st December, 1953.

Child patients not under the County Orthopaedic Clinics were attended to by Hospitals under their own arrangements, and the following table summarises those cases so far as known to the School Medical Officer :—

Hospital.	Inpatients.		Outpatients.	
	Crippling Defects.	Fractures.	Crippling Defects.	Fractures.
West Wales General Hospital	18	26	61	94
Other Hospitals	—	—	7	1
Total	18	26	68	95

During the year, there were 14,998 attendances at the Clinics in the County, and the following table shows the case-loads of the various Clinics at the end of the year :—

Llanelly	495	Tumble	126
Garnant	66	Llandilo	92
Pontyberem	56	Carmarthen	334
Llandovery	80	Burry Port	121
St. Clears	69	Pencader	48
Trimsaran	40	Brynamman	58
Ammanford	280	Llandebie	83
Whitland	52	Pontyates	77
Kidwelly	41		

A summary of the work undertaken under the orthopaedic arrangements during 1954 is given in the following table :—

	County Education Committee.	Other Authorities.	Total.
Number of individual cases under Scheme on 1st January, 1954	1445	735	2180
Number of new cases during the year	285	296	581
Number of individual cases dealt with during the year	1828	1035	—
Number of cases withdrawn from Scheme	460	184	644
Number of cases under the Scheme on the 31st December	1365	753	2118
Total number of attendances made at the Clinics	11688	3310	14998
Number of individual cases received remedial exercises by Sisters	389	2	391
Number of individual cases massaged by Sisters	—	3	3
Number of home visits by Sisters	560	507	1067
Number of cases examined by visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon	312	149	461
Number of cases recommended in - patient hospital treatment by Surgeon	26	5	31

Speech Therapy.—Mrs. A. St. John Bayley ceased duties as part-time Speech Therapist on the 22nd April and the Speech Therapy Clinics were discontinued until the 14th September. On that date Miss M. P. Francis commenced duties as whole-time Speech Therapist.

In addition to the Clinics already established at Carmarthen, Llanelly and Ammanford, a new clinic was established at Llandilo. At the end of the year, sessions as follows were held weekly at each clinic :—

Clinic.	Number of sessions.
Carmarthen	2
Llanelly	3
Ammanford	3
Llandilo	1

Two sessions each week are devoted by the Speech Therapist to school visits to follow up cases attending clinics.

Eighty-nine new cases were referred to the clinics and treatment was recommended and commenced for seventy of them. 18 did not require treatment and treatment was deferred until later in one instance.

140 cases received treatment at the Clinics, 100 of which were treated for the first time during the year ; i.e., 70 cases referred during the year and 30 cases referred in 1953 whose treatment was commenced in 1954. The following is a summary of the defects treated for the first time :—

	Carmar- then	Llanelly	Amman- ford	Llan- dilo	Total
Defects of Articulation	9	13	15	6	43
Stammer	7	5	5	2	19
Retarded Speech	1	1	1	—	3
Defects of voice	1	—	—	1	2
Stammer and poor articulation	1	—	5	—	6
Excessive or inadequate nasal resonance	1	—	—	1	2
Cleft Palate	1	5	—	—	6
Retarded speech and poor articulation	—	3	—	1	4
Confusion of sound	—	1	—	—	1
Rhotacism	2	—	1	2	5
Lisping	3	1	5	—	9
Total	26	29	32	13	100

1,160 attendances were made at the Clinics as follows :—

Clinics.	Sessions.	Treated.	Attendances.
Carmarthen	54	36	271
Llanelly	95	49	430
Ammanford	71	42	364
Llandilo	14	13	95
Totals	234	140	1160

56 cases were discharged from the clinics :—

18 with their defects cured, 17 sufficiently improved as not to warrant further attendances, 13 for lack of co-operation and unsatisfactory attendances, 2 left the County, 4 left School and two for other reasons.

Generally, the speech of the children who attended the Clinics regularly, and whose parents showed intelligent co-operation, improved considerably.

A summary of the waiting lists on the 31st December is as follows :—

	Carmar- then	Llanelly	Amman- ford	Llan- dilo	Total
Waiting Treatment	—	—	—	9	9
Not yet seen	3	32	4	7	46
Totals	3	32	4	16	55

Rheumatic Supervisory Clinics.—The Clinics for the supervision of rheumatic and heart complaints in children were continued at Llanelly, Carmarthen and Ammanford. Dr. M. G. Danaher, Assistant Medical Officer, was in charge of the Clinics, and regular monthly sessions were held at each centre.

Children showing abnormal cardiac physical signs, or giving a history of rheumatism or chorea, were referred to the Clinics by School Medical Officers.

Cases of congenital heart disease seen at the Clinics are provisionally classified. In general, such cases require hospital investigation, many of them demanding the application of an exacting technique for diagnosis and treatment.

Rheumatic children, however, require protection against recurring infection and the observation of children who have had acute rheumatism is an important aspect of the work. Relapse is a frequent feature of rheumatic disease in childhood and its early recognition is of prime importance.

The main work of the Clinics is, therefore, concerned with the observation of children who have had “juvenile rheumatism,” with an effort to prevent recrudescence of a disease which can exert such a progressively incapacitating influence.

The intelligent co-operation of parent and child in regard to precautions to be observed is most desirable. It is important, wherever possible, that the child leads a normal life in relation to games and exercise, endeavouring to maintain a proper balance between excessive fatigue and undue restriction.

The following is a summary of the cases seen at the Clinics :—

Defect.				No. of cases.
Observation following acute rheumatism	.....	.....	.....	78
Observation following chorea	.....	.....	.....	21
Congenital lesions	.....	.....	.....	14
Delicate	.....	.....	.....	3
Anaemia	.....	.....	.....	5
No apparent disease	.....	.....	.....	11
Total Number of Cases				132

282 attendances (166 at Llanelly, 64 at Carmarthen and 52 at Ammanford), were made at the Clinics.

At the end of the year there were 86 cases (55 at Llanelly, 17 at Carmarthen and 14 at Ammanford) on the registers of the Clinics.

Tuberculosis.—Treatment of tuberculous children is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, to whom all suspected cases are referred.

The following shows the number of children referred by School Medical Officers and private medical practitioners for examination by the Chest Physicians during the year :—

	Dr. D. B. Ll. Morgan	Dr. J. T. Jones.	Others.	Total.
Total number of children examined during 1954	638	250	6	894
Number of these children who were :				
(a) Contacts	336	58	—	394
(b) Under school age	214	62	1	277
(c) Found to be suffering from :				
(i) Respiratory Tuberculosis	12	3	1	16
(ii) Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	3	1	1	5
(d) Still under observation but not diagnosed at 31/12/54	210	29	—	239
(e) Found with no evidence of active tuberculosis	413	217	4	634
Analysis of Non-Respiratory cases :				
(a) Spine	—	—	—	—
(b) Hip	1	—	—	1
(c) Knee	1	—	1	2
(d) Abdomen	—	—	—	—
(e) Glands	1	1	—	2
(f) Shoulder	—	—	—	—
(g) Other sites	—	—	—	—
Treatment :				
(a) Number treated in Sanatoria.....	14	1	—	15
(b) Number treated in Hospital	5	8	2	15
(c) Number treated in Surgical Hospital	3	—	—	3
(d) Number treated in Open-Air School	6	3	—	9

Child Guidance.—At the request of the Cefncoed Hospital Management Committee, accommodation was made available at the Brynmair Clinic, Llanelly, for one half-day weekly for a Child Guidance Clinic which is in the charge of the Consultant Child Psychiatrist. The first session was held on the 4th August. Up to the end of the year, twenty-two children had attended on the advice of School Medical Officers and a number of children had also attended at the instance of general medical practitioners.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL DENTAL OFFICER

It is once again necessary to draw attention to the dearth of applicants for posts of School Dental Officers. One of the two vacancies on the establishment was filled during the year by Mr. D. L. Watlers, who commenced duties on the 10th May, 1954, but repeated advertisements for the other vacancy failed to attract any applicants. The staffing of the Service thus continues to be a

source of anxiety and the future prospects are overcast by the fact that one of the present officers is over retiring age, but his services have been retained in a temporary capacity, a second reaches retiring age during 1955 and another in 1956.

In the circumstances dental treatment was again necessarily restricted to children attending Primary Schools in the County but it is gratifying to note the improvements in conservative work as compared with previous years.

During the year all Primary Schools were visited for dental inspection and 18,144 children were examined; 14,729 (81.18%) were found to require treatment. Consents to treatment were received in respect of 11,225 a percentage of 76.21.

765 treatment sessions were held at the three fixed Clinics in the county and 714 sessions at schools. A summary of the work undertaken is as follows :—

Individual children treated	.....	.....	.....	7200
Attendances for treatment	.....	.....	.....	9994
Teeth extracted	.....	.....	.....	8765
Teeth saved by filling	.....	.....	.....	3859
Teeth received minor treatment	.....	.....	.....	2914
Administrations of general anaesthetic	.....	.....	.....	4501

More detailed figures will be found in Table V. of the Statistical Tables.

The improvement in conservative work is indicated in the following figures :—

1948—1.74 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.
1949—3.19 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.
1950—5.05 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.
1951—10.30 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.
1952—5.88 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.
1953—3.40 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.
1954—2.27 teeth extracted for each tooth filled.

As compared with 1953, the number of teeth extracted per tooth filled was reduced by one-third. Still further improvement is necessary.

Every opportunity should be taken to encourage in children a positive outlook towards dental health. This is an important function of the service and, while every dental officer does what he can in the time at his disposal, full use should be made of the excellent films which are now available in the County Education Film Library. These films have already been shown in some schools and it is hoped that many more schools will avail themselves of the opportunity.

Orthodontic work increased during the year and 37 children received treatment. There is an increasing awareness of the necessity for correcting dental irregularities.

In conclusion, I have once again to thank the Principal School Medical Officer, Medical and Dental Staff, Headteachers, Health Visitors and Nurses for their valued co-operation and assistance.

G. UNGOED GRIFFITHS,

Principal School Dental Officer.

SCHOOL MILK AND MEALS

The latest information available at the end of the year showed that out of a total attendance of 23,654 on a particular day, milk and meals were being supplied as follows :—

Milk .....	.....	.....	19,283 children (81.52%).
Meals .....	.....	.....	16,742 children (70.78%).

As compared with twelve months before, the figure for meals represents an increase of nearly 3%, and that for milk represents an increase of about 2%.

Every effort is made to ensure that milk supplied to Schools is of a satisfactory standard, and whenever possible Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested milk is provided. Where these grades of milk are not available, satisfactory samples are obtained before the proposed supplies are approved. Samples of all school milk are regularly taken for analysis by the Staff of the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures.

The following table gives the number of School Departments receiving the different grades of milk at the end of the year :—

Pasteurised .....	.....	.....	.....	158
Tuberculin Tested .....	.....	.....	.....	1
Other Milk :				
Pasteurised (bottled by retailers) .....	.....	.....	.....	24
Tuberculin Tested .....	.....	.....	.....	36
Raw .....	.....	.....	.....	3
			—	63
Reconstituted Dried Milk .....	.....	.....	.....	2

Two small rural schools were without a supply of milk at the end of the year.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1953, pasteurised milk, as from the 1st October, 1954, could only be sold as such if it was delivered to the consumer in the bottles or containers in which it was pasteurised. Some retailers purchase pasteurised milk in bulk and bottle it themselves or transfer it to other containers for retail.

With regard to tuberculin tested milk it is only in exceptional circumstances that the Minister of Education is prepared to approve for grant purposes expenditure on milk, the purchase price of which is more than the maximum price for pasteurised milk. Approval had only been received in one instance.

The arrangements for regular bacteriological investigations in respect of all school canteen staffs continued during the year with satisfactory results in all cases.

All appointments to school kitchen and canteen staffs were subject to satisfactory Chest X-ray examinations and to satisfactory faecal and urine bacteriological examinations.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Generally, parents display an active interest in the medical inspection and treatment of their children, and are eager to follow the advice given by Medical Officers. 3,509 parents were present at the medical inspections during the year, equivalent to a percentage of 29.5. Greater efforts should be made by parents to attend the first medical examination of children at school.

Appreciation of the keen interest and active co-operation of Headteachers and their staffs must again be recorded. The importance of their influence in matters relating to the children and also to the parents cannot be over-estimated, and the activities of the School Health Service would be seriously handicapped without that help and co-operation.

A good deal of assistance is also rendered by the Inspectors of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, but their work relating to problem families and neglected children is now undertaken through the Children's Officer.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

The Education Committee have a duty to provide handicapped pupils with an education suited to their needs, and the ascertainment and classification of handicapped children is one of the main functions of the School Health Service. The work in the County has been undertaken satisfactorily over the years except that in connection with the educationally subnormal and the partially deaf.

Four pupils were reported to the Local Health Authority during the year as being incapable of receiving benefit from education at school.

134 handicapped children in the County have been ascertained to require special educational treatment. Forty-six of these were on the 31st December, 1954, pupils at Residential Special Schools while twelve were receiving home tuition. A classification of the handicapped pupils is as follows :—

Handicap.	At Special Schools.	Receiving Home Tuition.	Requiring places at Special Schools.
Blind	3	—	2
Partially Blind	8	—	4
Deaf	17	—	8
Partially Deaf	1	—	1
Delicate	6	—	6
Physically Handicapped :			
(a) Heart	3	3	6
(b) Spastics	3	6	13
(c) Others	—	2	7
Educationally Subnormal	1	1	40**
Maladjusted	2*	—	—
Epileptics	2	—	1
Total	46	12	88

* 1 at Independent School.

** Includes 16 children recommended for admission to special classes at ordinary schools.

The number of educationally subnormal children shown represents only a small proportion of the estimated number of such children in the County. Records are held of a further 223 children who are probably educationally subnormal but who require further detailed examination.

Classes for backward children are held at ten schools in the County, and there were 190 children on the registers of these classes at the beginning of 1955.

There is no progress to report in connection with the establishment of the proposed residential special school for educationally subnormal children.

During the year, a proposal to establish a residential special school for delicate children at Pendine, was submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval.

SCHOOL CLINICS

Location of Clinic.	Type of Clinic.	No. of Sessions.
Permanent Clinics :		
Brynmair Clinic, Goring Road, Llanelly	Orthopaedic	Six fortnightly
	Asthma	One weekly
	Minor Ailments	Six weekly
	Rheumatic Supervisory	Three monthly
	Speech Therapy	Three weekly
	Dental	As required
The Clinic, High Street, Amman- ford	Orthopaedic	Two weekly
	Asthma	One weekly
	Minor Ailments	Five weekly
	Rheumatic Supervisory	One monthly
	Speech Therapy	Three weekly
	Dental	As required
Pond Street Clinic, Pentrefelin, Carmarthen	Asthma	One weekly
	Minor Ailments	Five weekly
	Rheumatic Supervisory	One monthly
	Speech Therapy	Two weekly
	Dental	Three weekly and as required
Penuel Old Vestry, St. Clears	Orthopaedic	Two fortnightly
	Dental	As required
Temporary Clinics :		
Dynevor Church Hall, Llandilo	Speech Therapy	One weekly
Penuel Chapel Vestry, Penuel Street, Carmarthen	Orthopaedic	Two weekly
Salem Chapel Vestry, New Road, Llandilo	do.	Two fortnightly
The Reading Room and Institute, Llandovery	do.	do.
The Institute, Memorial Square, Burry Port	do.	do.
The Church Hall, Brynamman	do.	do.
Assembly Rooms, Memorial Hall, Llandeibie	do.	do.
Memorial Hall, Pontyberem	do.	do.
Welfare Hall, Pontyates	do.	do.
Memorial Hall, Whitland	do.	do.
County Primary School, Garnant	do.	do.
Church Hall, Pencader	do.	do.
Bethania Chapel Vestry, Tumble	do.	do.
The Institute, Trimsaran	do.	One fortnightly
Trinity Methodist Schoolroom, Kidwelly	do.	do.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :—

Entrants	.....	.....	.....	.....	2162
Second Age Group	.....	.....	.....	.....	2464
Third Age Group	.....	.....	.....	.....	1413
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	6039

Number of other Periodic Inspections 2918

Grand Total 8957

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	.....	.....	.....	2907
Number of Re-Inspections	.....	.....	.....	2580
Total	.....	.....	.....	5487

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

Group. (1)	For defective vision (exclud- ing squint). (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA. (3)	Total individual pupils. (4)
Entrants	23	480	494
Second Age Group	218	241	438
Third Age Group	107	135	237
Total (prescribed groups)	348	856	1169
Other Periodic Inspections	240	383	596
Grand Total	588	1239	1765

Defect or Disease.		PERIODIC INSPECTIONS.			SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
		No. of defects.		No. of defects.	No. of defects.	
		Requiring treatment. (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (3)		Requiring treatment. (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (5)
(1)						
Skin	.....	42	149			30
Eyes --(a) Vision	.....	588	473		20	489
(b) Squint	.....	76	81		222	38
(c) Other	.....	57	47		30	9
Ears --(a) Hearing	.....	12	38		15	9
(b) Otitis Media	.....	32	92		12	9
(c) Other	.....	21	27		9	20
Nose or Throat	.....	337	814		3	8
Speech	.....	55	45		199	191
Cervical Glands	.....	26	286		21	33
Heart and Circulation	.....	35	163		6	58
Lungs	.....	178	298		24	80
Developmental--	.....				51	190
(a) Hernia	.....	12	32		3	15
(b) Other	.....	17	81		4	21
Orthopaedic--	.....				
(a) Posture	.....	96	44		10	12
(b) Flat foot	.....	319	137		93	51
(c) Other	.....	159	212		60	58
Nervous system--	.....				
(a) Epilepsy	.....	—	11		2	5
(b) Other	.....	12	38		3	8
Psychological--	.....				
(a) Development	.....	4	40		6	29
(b) Stability	.....	1	12		2	4
Other	.....	61	187		26	74

(B.) CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE
AGE GROUPS

Age Groups.	Number of Pupils Inspected.	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	2162	1390	64.30	765	35.38	7	.32
Second Age Group	2464	1425	57.83	1033	41.92	6	.24
Third Age Group	1413	860	60.86	549	38.85	4	.28
Other Periodic Inspections	2918	1647	56.44	1259	43.15	12	.41
Total	8957	5322	59.42	3606	40.26	29	.32

TABLE III.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(i)	Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons	.....	88651
(ii)	Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested	.....	577
(iii)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	.....	28
(iv)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	.....	—

TABLE IV.

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

GROUP 1.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table III.)

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year.	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Ringworm : (i) Scalp	8	—
(ii) Body	5	—
Scabies	2	—
Impetigo	31	5
Other skin diseases	24	26
Total	70	31

GROUP 2.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of cases dealt with.	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	—	306
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	—	1442
Total	—	1748
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were		
(a) Prescribed	—	876
(b) Obtained	—	784

GROUP 3.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	Number of cases treated.	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Received operative treatment		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	54
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	464
(c) for other nose and throat conditions.....	—	138
Received other forms of treatment	—	493
Total	—	1149

GROUP 4.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	58	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or outpatient departments	1828	163

GROUP 5.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

	Number of cases treated.	
	In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics.	Elsewhere.
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	—	22

GROUP 6.—SPEECH THERAPY

	Number of cases treated.	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	140	—

GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

			Number of cases treated.	
			By the Authority.	Otherwise.
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments	.....		790	—
(b) Other (specify)				
1. General Surgical	.....	.....	—	543
2. General Medical	.....	.....	—	248
Total	.....		790	791

TABLE V.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—					
(a) Periodic	.....	.....	.....	.....	17597
(b) Specials	.....	.....	.....	.....	547
Total (1)					18144
(2) Number found to require treatment					14729
(3) Number referred for treatment	.....	.....	.....	.....	11225
(4) Number actually treated	.....	.....	.....	.....	7200
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	.....	.....	.....	.....	9994
(6) Half-days devoted to : Inspection					246
Treatment					1479
Total (6)					1725
(7) Fillings : Permanent Teeth					3799
Temporary Teeth					545
Total (7)					4344
(8) Number of Teeth filled : Permanent Teeth					3325
Temporary Teeth					534
Total (8)					3859
(9) Extractions : Permanent Teeth					975
Temporary Teeth					7790
Total (9)					8765
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction					4501
(11) Other operations : Permanent Teeth					1901
Temporary Teeth					1013
Total (11)					2914

